

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 28-46 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the Terminal Disclaimers filed herewith and the remarks contained herein.

ELECTION / RESTRICTION

On August 26, 2004, Applicants' undersigned attorney made a provisional election without traverse to prosecute the inventive subject matter of Group I as set forth in Claims 1-16 and 28-35. This election is hereby affirmed with Claims 17-27 being withdrawn from further examination, as they relate to the non-elected invention.

DOUBLE PATENTING

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-6 and 28-35 under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over Claims 1-24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,629,474. Likewise, Claims 1-6 and 28-35 are "provisionally" rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 13-16 of co-pending U.S. Application No. 10/680,465 (issue fee paid).

In view of the Terminal Disclaimers filed herewith, each of the double patenting rejections has been addressed and rendered moot. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw these rejections.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

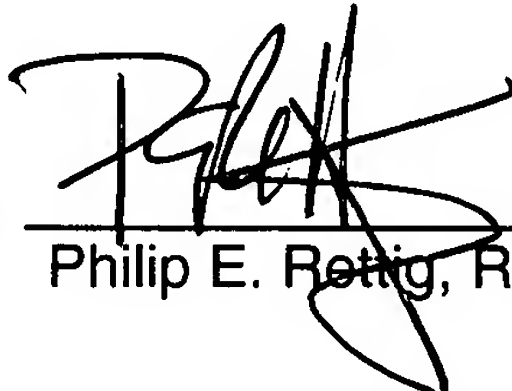
The allowance of Claims 7-16 is acknowledged.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1240.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 23, 2004

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